

a. classification of subject matter IPC 7 C22B30/04 C22B3/44 C01G28/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED $\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)} \\ IPC & 7 & C22B & C01G \end{array}$

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, COMPENDEX, INSPEC

| | ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|----------------------------|
| ategory ° | Citation of document, with indication, | |
| E A | US 5 820 966 A (BLAKELY BRIAN CHARLES ET AL) 13 October 1998 (1998-10-13) cited in the application abstract column 1, line 7 - line 10 column 1, line 63 -column 2, line 61 column 3, line 8 - line 64 claims 1-8,10,11; figure 1; example; tables •EP 1 059 361 A (BOLIDEN MINERAL AB) 13 December 2000 (2000-12-13) abstract paragraph '0001! - paragraph '0003! paragraph '0008! paragraph '0010! - paragraph '0011! claims; figure / | 1,4,7-9, 11,14 15,31 |

| | ′ | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Y Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. | Patent family members are listed in annex. | | | | |
| Special categories of cited documents: 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filling date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means 'P' document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed Date of the actual completion of the international search | *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&* document member of the same patent family | | | | |
| 29 January 2001 | 06/02/2001 | | | | |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL. – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 | Authorized officer Ceulemans, J | | | | |
| 37 (1-1-1003) | | | | | |



| | TPCI | /ZA 00/001/6 |
|-------------|---|-----------------------|
| n (Cantinuo | tion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | Relevant to claim No. |
| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| A | US 5 482 534 A (LEONARD RODNEY L ET AL) 9 January 1996 (1996-01-09) cited in the application the whole document | 1-3,5-15 |
| A | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 009, no. 017 (C-262), 24 January 1985 (1985-01-24) & JP 59 164639'A (NIPPON KOGYO KK), 17 September 1984 (1984-09-17) abstract | 1-4,7 |
| А | DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199436 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class D15, AN 1994-287955 XP002158767 "removal of arsenic from an acidic solution containing arsenic and iron" & JP 06 206080'A (AKITA SEIREN KK), 26 July 1994 (1994-07-26) abstract | 1-7 |
| A,P | DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 200059 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class D15, AN 2000-614736 XP002158768 "Removal and fixing of arsenic from arsenic content solution" & JP 2000 219920'A (DOWA MINING CO LTD), 8 August 2000 (2000-08-08) abstract | 1-7 |
| | | |
| | | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ternational Application No
PCT/ZA 00/00176

| | Morniadon on Parent | | FC1/ZA 00/002/0 | | |
|--|---------------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent fami member(s | | Publication date |
| US 5820966 | A | 13-10-1998 | ES 2147 FI 982 JP 2000203 | 8898 A 7154 A 2657 A 3840 A 1213 A | 01-07-1999 16-08-2000 10-06-1999 25-07-2000 09-06-1999 |
| EP 1059361 • | A | 13-12-2000 | AU 276 | 6800 A | 07-12-2000 |
| US 5482534 | Α | 09-01-1996 | WO 930 BR 920 CA 211 EP 065 JP 750 | 0802 B 8310 A 6659 A 9240 A 68215 A 00147 T | 30-06-1994 29-04-1993 11-04-1995 29-04-1993 21-06-1995 05-01-1995 09-06-1993 |
| JP 59164639 | ∘ A | 17-09-1984 | | 12100 C 21728 B | 27-11-1987 14-05-1987 |
| JP 6206080 | e A | 26-07-1994 | NONE | | |
| JP 20002199 | 20 ' A | 08-08-2000 | NONE | | |